



**BOARD OF HEARING AND SPEECH
MEETING MINUTES FOR
NOVEMBER 7, 2003**

LOCATION: **Department of Social and Health Services
Division of Child Support
712 East Pear Street
Olympia, Washington 98501**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lynn Byrne, Vice Chair
Rudy Gahler, M.D.
Don Nelson
Penny Allen
Kenneth Pope
Laurie Anderson
Lesly Loiseau

STAFF PRESENT: T. Diane Young, Deputy Executive Director
Tracy Hansen, Program Manager
Ericka Brown, Administrative Assistant

AAG PRESENT: Kristin Mitchell, AAG Advisor

OTHERS PRESENT: Melissa Johnson, Lobbyist, Washington Speech and
Hearing Association

1. CALL TO ORDER

Lynn Byrne, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 9:20 am. The meeting agenda was approved with additions. The August 2003 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

2. PROGRAM REPORT

Diane Young provided an overview, explaining current revenue and expenditures for the Hearing and Speech September Interim Operating Report. Ms. Young explained that the Attorney General's Office has not given the Department of Health their cost portion therefore the beginning

balance on the budget report is not accurate. Tracy Hansen will send the Board a complete copy of September Interim Operating Report as soon as program receives it. The current balance is accurate on the second page of the September Interim Operating Report.

Tracy Hansen presented an updated Sub-Committee Roster to reflect adding Ken Pope to the Disciplinary Committee, Penny Allen to the Education/Exam Committee and Lesly Loiseau to the Rules Committee.

Ms. Hansen informed the Board that Jacky Ianniello has requested to resign. Ms. Ianniello will be sending in a letter of resignation to the Board.

Ms. Hansen requested the Board to choose two more meeting dates and locations for 2004. The Board decided to check their calendars and respond to program staff by email.

Ericka Brown provided the Board with current licensing statistics. The current statistics show 288 licensed fitter/dispensers, 320 licensed audiologists, 16 audiology interim permit holders, 1071 licensed speech-language pathologists, 57 speech-language pathology interim permit holders.

Kristen Mitchell, AAG introduced herself to the Board. Ms. Mitchell explained that the Attorney General's Office is going through some changes and that no determination has been made as to if she will continue to be assigned to this Board for future meetings.

3. COMPLAINT/DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE REPORT

Lynn Byrne reported that the disciplinary case load as of October 30, 2003 includes, 12 open cases; of those cases, 2 cases are in assessment, 3 cases are in investigations, and 7 cases are in disposition.

Initial Assessment Decisions

2003-09-0001HA	conducts an investigation
2003-10-0001HA	close prior to investigation, below threshold
2003-10-0002HA	conducts an investigation
2003-10-0003HA	presentation – Disciplinary Sub-Committee determined to assign case to investigation.
2003-10-0004HA	presentation – Disciplinary Sub-Committee determined to assign case to investigation.

Case Disposition Decisions

2003-02-0002HA	close after investigation, below threshold
2003-02-0003HA	close after investigation, below threshold
2002-03-0001CA(HA)	file has been closed as a result of Final Order, however, compliance tracking is needed
2003-02-0001LD	presentation – Disciplinary Sub-Committee determined to close case after investigation, no violation.

2003-03-0003LL presentation – Disciplinary Sub-Committee determined to close case after investigation, below threshold.

Lynn Byrne presented the draft policy for Review Assessment of Complaints for Investigative Services. Kristen Mitchell reviewed the policy and did not see any problems with the draft policy. The Board approved and accepted the Policy.

Ms. Byrne discussed disciplinary training conducted by Tracy Hansen during Disciplinary Committee meeting. The Disciplinary Committee also reviewed and amended the worksheet used during case review.

4. RULES COMMITTEE REPORT

Lynn Byrne provided an update regarding the status of rules in process by the Board.

- A) New WAC regarding hearing instrument fitter/dispenser two-year degree program approval-update regarding progress

Tracy Hansen will request further clarification on faxed document from John Johnson, Program Director of Spokane Falls Community College. Ms. Hansen will forward the Board his response when received by program. Ms. Hansen will continue to proceed through the rules review and comment process for the hearing instrument fitter/dispenser two-year degree program approval-update regarding progress.

- B) WAC 246-828-500,510,530,550 - Continuing Education.

Tracy Hansen will begin the initial continuing education rules process by filing a CR-101 to Health Policy Services within the Department of Health.

5. PRESENTATION ON WASHINGTON HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Jean Sullivan, Executive Director of Washington Health Professional Services Program (WHPS) provided a presentation on what services the program provides. Ms. Sullivan distributed a copy of the WHPS brochure and “A Guide for Assisting Colleagues Who Demonstrate Impairment in the Workplace”.

Ms. Sullivan explained that the program is a confidential program for chemically impaired health professionals. The program is a voluntary, structured, supportive monitoring program designed to assist impaired practitioners into treatment and recovery. The program includes:

- confidential consultation with the health professional, colleagues, or other concerned referring individual
- intervention consultation
- referral for evaluation
- referrals for treatment

- coordination of resources
- monitoring of participation and compliance

- encouragement and support
- education and outreach

Ms. Sullivan stated the program offers an individualized program and provides a cost-effective approach to recovery from chemical dependency.

For information regarding WHPS program, brochure and guide, please contact Washington Health Professional Services, Post Office Box 47872, Olympia, WA 98504-7872, telephone number (360) 493-9220 or FAX: (360) 664-8588.

The Hearing and Speech Programs may consider mailing the brochure to all licensees and approved hearing and speech schools in Washington State.

6. EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Lesly Loiseau stated that program staff will be contacting International Institute for Hearing Instrument Studies to get a copy of the Hearing Instrument Fitter/Dispenser Examination for the Board to review. Program staff to request Assistant Attorney General review of current exam agreement between International Institute for Hearing Instrument Studies and Board for Hearing and Speech and proposed amendments to the exam agreement.

Mr. Loiseau reported that at the September 16, 2003 examination, there were a total of 10 candidates who sat for the examination and all candidates passed.

7. PUBLIC INFORMATION/RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Lynn Byrne provided an overview of housekeeping amendments to the Hearing Instrument Consumer's Rights brochure. The brochure has been revised.

Penny Allen discussed concerns about the public not being aware of the Board of Hearing and Speech. Ms. Allen expressed that every consumer who is sold a hearing instrument should be provided a Hearing Instrument Consumer's Rights brochure.

Tracy Hansen explained in order to make this a requirement for licensees a rule must be created. Ms. Hansen will place this on the agenda for the next Rules Committee meeting for discussion.

Diane Young discussed that program staff will be going out into the community to talk about the Hearing Instrument Consumer's Rights brochure and better educate the public about the Board of Hearing and Speech.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Tracy Hansen presented a request from Audiology Foundation of America regarding making Audiology standards higher. Ms. Hansen will mail a letter to them stating the Washington State

Department of Health will issue permits to applicants who meet our requirements listed in 18.35 RCW.

Tracy Hansen presented a request from Barbara Hoopes, Speech Language Pathologist to supervise two permit holders. Ms. Hansen will mail a letter to Ms. Hoopes to let her know Speech Language Pathologists can only supervise one permit holder at a time per WAC 246-828-045(iii).

9. DISCUSSION: Policies/Interpretive Statements

- A. The Board reviewed its Below Threshold Policy in reference to drafting guidelines for moving cases from assessment to investigations. The Board Determined to adopt the policy.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Melissa Johnson gave a report on the Department of Labor and Industries reimbursement for hearing aids workers compensation issue.

Ms. Johnson stated she gave a presentation at a meeting with the Department of Labor and Industries in September 2003 regarding the reimbursement issue.

Ms. Johnson stated when she receives a copy of the Labor and Industries Policy she will forward a copy to the Hearing and Speech Program.

Ms. Johnson said that Washington Speech and Hearing Association may be introducing a bill next session in regards to the supervision for interim permit holders. The Association is not anticipating any controversy.

11. OTHER ISSUES

Tracy Hansen discussed with the committee having one day meetings unless a two day meeting is necessary. Ms. Hansen suggested having the committee meetings in the morning and the business meeting in the afternoon.

Ms. Hansen stated there may be upcoming vacancies on the Board for Hearing and Speech. Program staff will prepare and mail Board Application Packets to interested persons. Program staff will also check on applications already on file with the Department of Health and send a letter to the associations for recruitment.

The Board discussed Board elections, however, could not make a determination as program staff would need to place this on the agenda for its next meeting.

12. REVIEW OF MEETING

Ericka Brown reviewed Board decisions made at this meeting.

13. PLANNING FOR NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting and Committee meetings are scheduled for February 6, and May 21, 2004 in Olympia, Washington.

15. ADJOURMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Recorder: _____
Ericka Brown, Administrative Assistant

Submitted by: _____
Tracy Hansen, Program Manager

Approved by: _____
Kim Coy, Chair

These minutes are to be reviewed and corrected at the next board meeting and will not be redistributed unless substantial errors or omissions are identified.